



# PERCH TALES

A Periodic Newsletter of the  
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
Justin Wiggins, Writer      George Babey, Editor

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Summer 2008

## Whirlwind!



CARE Instructors taught family fishing courses across the entire State this spring. Here, RAY POTKAY demonstrates filleting for students in Stratford. Over 2,000 students have participated this Spring, with lots of other activities already scheduled for summer and beyond.

Springtime was great but wild...we only have room for highlights! More news and photos appear inside.

- Held an Opening Day media event with **COMMISSIONER MCCARTHY & BILL HYATT**. CARE students stocked 500 trout into Black Pond, Meriden, for reporters from 2 TV stations and 2 newspapers.
- CARE Instructors led 55 **Family Fishing classes** in 14 towns. Families spent up to 10 hours with CARE's best Instructors. 500 kids & adults enjoyed fishing and the outdoors together with us.
- New Instructor **DORIS JOHNSON** led classes for over 60 inner-city students at DEP's new Urban Fisheries in Keney Park and Beardsley Park. They were featured on the front page of the *CT Post*!
- 1,300 more students in 15 towns attended short events led by CARE Instructors in partnership with **Rockville Fish & Game Club, the Northwest Sportsmen Association, Trout Unlimited, Scouts** and many others.

- Over 70 students from East Lyme & New Haven joined us for a fishing trip to the CARE Center. Their teachers taught CARE lessons in school both before and following the trip.
- Advanced training was offered by Certified Instructor DAVE and his wife AUDREY MORDAVSKY. Their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual ***Trolling Techniques for Trout and Salmon*** has attracted more avid anglers every year with some now coming from other states!
- Our second *New Instructor Training* for 2008 was hosted by new CARE Instructor **JUDY WITZKE** at **Winding Trails** in Farmington. Fifteen new folks joined our ranks from across the State. Next issue will have details and new instructor information.

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***We need your help! Events on page 2  
Catfish Stocking in CT! See page 5***

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- **DICK EMMONS** led a team of CARE volunteers at the *CT Special Olympics summer games*. They ran casting skill activities at the Olympic Village for hundreds of athletes between events.
- Veteran Instructor **JOHN DELAURENTIS** helped State Rep. **LARRY BUTLER** stock catfish at a media event celebrating the arrival of channel catfish to Connecticut. The event received favorable attention in a *Waterbury Republican* newspaper story and had stocking photos distributed by the *Associated Press*!

*Please help us keep up the great work into summer. Schedule your course today! <"}}}}}>{*

## ***Recent and Upcoming Classes***

<i><b>Status</b></i>	<i><b>Class Dates</b></i>	<i><b>Chief Instructor</b></i>	<i><b>Town</b></i>	<i><b>Class Times</b></i>	<i><b>Instructor #</b></i>
FULL	MAY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2008	DAVID CASCO	EAST LYME	3:00PM TO 5:00PM	(860) 739-8438
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	RICH MOLASKEY	PLYMOUTH	9:00AM TO 3:00PM	(860) 584-2954
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	WAYNE MAGRO	LEDYARD	8:00AM TO 12:00PM	
OPEN	MAY 3, 2008	TOM BOURRET	DANBURY	8:30AM TO 1:30PM	(860) 663-1656
OPEN	MAY 3, 2008	GERALD HOLLINS	KENT	8:00AM TO 2:00PM	
OPEN	MAY 3, 2008	JOE WOZNAK	MILFORD	8:00AM TO 12:00PM	(203) 776-5481
OPEN	MAY 3, 2008	JEFF ROGALA	TOLLAND	4:00PM TO 5:00PM	(860) 872-7834
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JEFF ROGALA	TOLLAND	3:00 PM TO 4:00 PM	(860) 872-7834
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JEFF ROGALA	TOLLAND	2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 872-7834
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JEFF ROGALA	TOLLAND	1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM	(860) 872-7834
FULL	MAY 1, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	10:00AM TO 11:30PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JOHN FOLEY	TOLLAND	11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	(860) 872-3194
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JOHN FOLEY	TOLLAND	10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 872-3194
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	JOHN FOLEY	TOLLAND	9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM	(860) 872-3194
FULL	MAY 1, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	12:30PM TO 2:00PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	MAY 3, 2008	GEORGE EMANUEL	DEEP RIVER	8:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 537-5050
OPEN	MAY 7, 16 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 490-3258
OPEN	MAY 6, 8, 13, 2008	TOM BOURRET	WALLINGFORD	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	(860) 663-1656
OPEN	MAY 6, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
OPEN	MAY 8, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	MAY 9, 2008	GEORGE BABEY	WINDHAM	10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	(860) 424-3481
OPEN	MAY 12, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
OPEN	MAY 13, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
OPEN	MAY 15, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	MAY 17, 2008	JEFF ROGALA	EAST HADDAM	8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	(860) 872-7834
OPEN	MAY 19, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	MAY 20, 22, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	BRIDGEPORT	8:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 490-3258
OPEN	MAY 20, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	MAY 21, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	10:30AM TO 1:00PM	(860) 490-3258

OPEN	MAY 22, 29, JUN 4	STAN GRABOWSKI	FARMINGTON	7:00 PM TO 8:15 PM	(860) 582-2931
FULL	JUN 1, 2008	TIM IRWIN	COLEBROOK	9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM	(860) 528-4401
FULL	JUN 1, 2008	TIM IRWIN	COLEBROOK	10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 528-4401
FULL	JUNE 3-11, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	NEW HAVEN	10:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 663-1656
FULL	JUNE 2-10, 2008	JUSTIN WIGGINS	NEW HAVEN	8:00AM TO 10:00PM	(860) 663-1656
FULL	JUN 6, 7, 2008	DICK EMMONS	NEW HAVEN	10:00AM TO 3:00PM	(203) 357-7505
FULL	JUN 11, 12, 2008	SUE QUINCY	FAIRFIELD	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 736-6067
OPEN	JUN 14, 2008	CRAIG MERGINS	HARTFORD	9:00AM TO 2:00PM	(860) 713-3131
FULL	JUN 27, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
OPEN	JUN 20, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM	(860) 490-3258
FULL	JUN 30 - JUL 4, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
OPEN	JUL 2, 2008	DORIS JOHNSON	HARTFORD	10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM	(860) 490-3258
FULL	JUL 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	GRACE JACOBSON	POMFRET	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 974-2773
OPEN	JUL 7-11, 2008	DAVID CASKO	OLD LYME	8:30AM TO 3:30PM	(860) 739-8438
FULL	JUL 7-11, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	JUL 11, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	JUL 12, 2008	GRACE JACOBSON	MANSFIELD	10:00AM TO 3:30PM	(860) 974-2773
FULL	JUL 14-28, 2008	JOHN RYAN	BRISTOL	9:00AM TO 12:00PM	(860) 582-1020
FULL	JUL 17, 18, 2008	SUE QUINCY	BETHLEHEM	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 736-6067
OPEN	JUL 21-25, 2008	DAVID CASKO	OLD LYME	8:30AM TO 3:00PM	(860) 739-8438
FULL	JUL 24, 25, 2008	SUE QUINCY	FAIRFIELD	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 736-6067
FULL	JUL 25, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
FULL	JUL 28, 29, 30, 31, AUG 1	GRACE JACOBSON	POMFRET	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	(860) 974-2773
FULL	AUG 2, 2008	NORM ROBERTS	NEW HAVEN	10:00AM TO 3:30PM	(203) 732-0872
FULL	AUG 8, 2008	JEFF CARLSON	VERNON	9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM	(860) 875-7549
OPEN	AUG 28, 30 2008	RAY POTKAY	STRATFORD	6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM	(203) 395-8371

# You Are One In A Million

(Well, at least One in 10,000!)



CARE Instructor **DAVID CASKO** with a couple students on a successful fishing trip. Do you think they will ever forget that day?

About three hundred CARE volunteers are active every year, helping teach families about water, fish and fishing. About the environment. About the outdoor world. That's 300 out of 3 million people here in Connecticut. This is a very select group! You certainly have your work cut out for you! All of you are shining examples of what we call Stewards of the Environment. A steward is someone who helps take care of something. Stewards don't just believe in things. Stewards don't just talk about good things. They DO things.

As you take time out of your busy lives to introduce families to the water, fish and fishing around them, you are helping DEP in so many ways. If you use CARE equipment and materials for short events that pop up and fit your schedules, you help create

**participants.** At a minimum, some will buy a license and contribute their part to DEP's work conserving resources in the State.

If you meet with your students repeatedly, you have a chance to convey additional knowledge on safety, fishing skills, sportsmanship, and ecology. Using both CARE and *Hooked On Fishing, Not On Drugs®* materials, you can impart in them respect for themselves, for others and for the environment. You will get some of them past the *participant* stage to the **angler** stage.

Continued interaction with them over time, fishing together and learning together, might even get them to achieve what you have become: a **steward**. Our experience has shown that some of your students will follow your leadership and become CARE Instructors. Others become active in river clean-ups with groups like Trout Unlimited or Scouts. Some will help local Inland Wetlands Commissions or take active roles on town recreation boards, VFW Posts, Nature Centers or youth services groups. They follow in your footsteps.

If the satisfaction of that isn't enough, the list of positive effects on the steward, their community, the environment and the DEP is long! Justin created a spreadsheet recently that revealed just one: the monetary impact of your dedication. ***CARE Instructors have donated the equivalent of \$2,400,000 to the DEP from 1987-2007.*** You are quite a dedicated group indeed! Thank you.

## *A Note From Dianne Grenier*

Hello and Good Day to you....

Would it be possible to drop a note in the next *Perch Tales* about the “CARE Instructor E-mail List” that I maintain and use for making contact with instructors?

The “List” currently contains almost 200 instructors e-mail addresses, and I use it often ~ just ask anyone on the list! ☺ This is our best and fastest way of contacting instructors about upcoming classes, requesting assistance, or simply passing along fun and useful information about the CARE program or other DEP Notices and Fishing Reports or just fishing “stuff”. We do not “Sell” or “Share” our list with anyone for any reason ... not even for good fishing tips! ☺

If instructors make changes to their e-mail address or acquire a new one and would like to be added (or removed) to the “list” they can simply send me a note at [Deardianne@comcast.net](mailto:Deardianne@comcast.net) I’d be happy to add them to the “list” or make changes.

Even though my “Seasonal Employment” is quickly coming to an end I suspect I will continue to pass along “some” of the same information during my “off time”. ☺ I get many positive responses to the “stuff” that I find to share. An updated list is critical to the success.

Thanks,

Best Fishes,

Dianne

## ***CATFISH, CATFISH, CATFISH!!!!***

Channel catfish were stocked for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row in Connecticut waters this past June 3. There were a total of 11 lakes throughout the state that received these Arkansas grown fish, including 5 waters that are part of the new Urban Fishing Program. Catfish stocked in the Urban Fishing Ponds were 14-18 inches, some even bigger! The other six lakes received catfish that were 9-12 inches but are expected to survive and grow to a much larger size. See below for the names of lakes stocked and some pictures. Go and get them while they are fresh!

### **Lakes and Ponds stocked with channel catfish**

#### **Urban Fishing Waters (14-18” catfish)**

*Bunnells Pond (Bridgeport)*

*Keney Park Pond (Hartford)*

*Mohegan Park Pond (Norwich)*

*Lake Wintergreen (Hamden)*

*Lakewood Lake (Waterbury)*

#### **Other Lakes & Ponds (9-12” catfish)**

*Black Pond (Meriden, Middlefield)*

*Lower Bolton Lake (Bolton)*

*Maltby Lakes #2 and #3 (Orange, West Haven)*

*Pattaconk Lake (Chester)*

*Quonnipaug Lake (Guilford)*

*Silver Lake (Berlin, Meriden)*





The “LIVE FISH” truck pictured here came all the way from Arkansas to deliver our channel cats. DEP stocking trucks were then filled up and the catfish were taken to and released in the 11 lakes throughout the state.

DEP Fisheries Biologist **BOB ORCIARI** scoops catfish from the live tanks and hands them off to State Rep **LARRY BUTLER** to be stocked in Lakewood Lake in Waterbury. Lakewood Lake is the newest Urban Fishing Pond.



CARE Instructor **JOHN DELAURENTIS** was busy orchestrating a group of volunteers that helped with the stocking. Thanks to John for taking time and helping the fisheries staff on a very busy day!

# Advanced Trout and Salmon Trolling Seminar

Hosted by CARE Instructors **DAVE** and **AUDREY MORDAVSKY**

\*Special THANK YOU to **RICHARD GATEWOOD** for the wonderful photos\*



The packed audience was filled with anglers who drove from several states to listen to this 3<sup>rd</sup> annual seminar. In the front right you can see **AL SONSKI**, Manager of DEP's Kensington Hatchery, is in attendance!

CARE Instructor and seminar host **DAVE MORDAVSKY** shows the latest and greatest techniques and equipment for trolling up trout. Dave and his wife **AUDREY** spend a lot of time on the water perfecting these techniques and catching trout and salmon.



**JIM TONER**, Certified CARE Instructor for over 15 years, is surprised with a birthday cake celebrating him being 84 years young! The CARE program has proven to be a resource where you can meet lifelong friends and fishing buddies!



# CARE CENTER COURSES

**New for 2008:** CARE Center courses at our education facility in Killingworth. Schoolteachers with classes in New Haven and East Lyme integrated CARE science sessions into their lesson plans. Classes then visited the CARE Center, with parent-chaperones, for a day of outdoor education and fishing! They returned to their schools for three more CARE lessons, an exam and received CARE diplomas. Our success with 75 students created demand from an additional 300 students for the coming year. See pictures below:



Above **GEORGE** shows a student from East Lyme Middle school how to tie the improved clinch knot at the CARE Center this past May.



The indoor lessons were followed by a fishing trip to Forster Pond. The students were accompanied on this field trip by parent chaperones. The fishing started off a little slow...



As the sun came out the fish started to cooperate. All students were successful! Most caught bass up to 15 inches on their first ever fishing trip. Look at their smiles. Can it get any better than this?



More CARE CENTER course photos from ELM CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NEW HAVEN:



Students try their luck at catching a backyard bass before the real thing.



This young girl makes sure to show off her first fish, a fat yellow perch! Beautiful!

## OPENING DAY MEDIA EVENT

Hosted by the DEP Inland Fisheries Division



Inland Fisheries Director **BILL HYATT** led the media day. Two television stations and two newspapers covered the event. The main intent was to help everyone remember that Opening Day of trout season was right around the corner.



DEP Commissioner **GINA McCARTHY** joined CARE students from Hanover School, Meriden. Together, they stocked hundreds of trout into Black Pond. After helping stock the beautiful trout, parent chaperones knew exactly where they were going on Opening Day: Black Pond!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all our Instructors that took time out of your busy schedule to participate in a CARE family fishing course this spring. You made a difference! Together you reached students in 16 different towns this past spring. CARE Instructor **STAN GRABOWSKI** stepped up and took the Chief Instructor role for 3 separate family fishing courses in Bristol, Newington, and Farmington! WOW! **JOHN ORTOLEVA** traveled to Bridgeport, Killingworth, New Haven and New London to help at CARE events. **JOHN RYAN** helped out in Bristol and Newington, and still has planned 3 week long fishing courses for this July! **GRACE JACOBSON** has 2 scheduled! **SUE QUINCY** and new Instructor **PAULA SPONAUER** each taught two classes this month. You are all so generous with your time and knowledge! It is greatly appreciated.

Constituent Services-CARE Program  
CT DEP-Fisheries Division  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

